

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-44 (Cancelled).

45. (New) A method for balancing the distribution of interference between radio cells in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein a number of adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, the method comprising the steps of:

grouping said subcarrier blocks into a plurality of subcarrier block sets in each radio cell of the cell cluster,

determining a plurality of transmission power ranges for each of the radio cell of said cell cluster, wherein a transmission power range defines a range of transmission power levels used for transmission power control,

assigning the plurality of transmission power ranges to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster.

46. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein the radio cells of the cell cluster each comprise corresponding subcarrier block sets having the same subcarriers.

47. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said plurality transmission power ranges is assigned to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to a subcarrier block set of said single radio cell, and

there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to one of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in the radio cells of said cell cluster.

48. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said plurality transmission power ranges is assigned to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of subcarrier block sets of said single radio cell to a transmission power range, and

there is a mapping of each of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in the radio cells of said cell cluster to one of said plurality of transmission power ranges.

49. (New) The method according to claim 47, wherein the mapping is a unique or one-to-one mapping.

50. (New) A method for balancing the distribution of interference between radio cells in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein N adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, N being an integer number of 2 or more, the method comprising the steps of:

grouping said subcarrier blocks into N subcarrier block sets in each radio cell of the cell cluster, wherein the radio cells of the cell cluster each comprise corresponding subcarrier block sets having the same subcarriers,

determining N transmission power ranges for each of the radio cell of said cell cluster, wherein a transmission power

range defines a range of transmission power levels used for transmission power control,

assigning N transmission power ranges to the N subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

each of the N transmission power ranges in a radio cell is assigned to one of the N subcarrier block sets of said radio cell, and

each of the N transmission power ranges is assigned to one subcarrier block set of corresponding subcarrier block sets.

51. (New) A method for balancing the distribution of interference between radio cells in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells each of them comprising at least two sectors, wherein in each sector a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein a number of adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, the method comprising the steps of:

grouping said subcarrier blocks into a plurality of subcarrier block sets in each of the sectors of each radio cell of said cluster,

determining a plurality of transmission power ranges for each sector of each radio cell of the cell cluster, wherein a transmission power range defines a range of transmission power levels used for transmission power control,

assigning the plurality of transmission power ranges to the plurality of subcarrier block sets of a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors of said other radio cells.

52. (New) The method according to claim 51, wherein each sector of a radio cell has adjacent sectors in the other radio cells of the cell cluster, and wherein a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors in said other radio cells build a sector cluster and each comprise corresponding subcarrier block set having the same subcarriers.

53. (New) The method according to claim 52, wherein said plurality of transmission power ranges is assigned to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single sector of a radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to a subcarrier block set of said sector, and

there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to one of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in said sector cluster.

54. (New) The method according to claim 51, wherein said plurality of transmission power ranges is assigned to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single sector of a radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of subcarrier block sets of said sector to a transmission power range, and

there is a mapping of each of said plurality of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in said sector cluster to one transmission power range.

55. (New) The method according to claim 53, wherein the mapping is a unique or one-to-one mapping.

56. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein the communication system comprises a plurality of communication terminals communicating with base stations associated to said

plurality of radio cells/sectors, the method further comprising the steps of:

measuring the path loss of a communication signal of a communication terminal and the path loss of interference from adjacent radio cells/sectors for said communication signal, and assigning the communication terminal to a subcarrier block of a subcarrier block set in a radio cell/sector based on said measurement.

57. (New) The method according to claim 56, further comprising the step of determining a transmission power range for said communication terminal based on said measurement, and wherein the communication terminal is assigned to a block set based on the determined transmission power range.

58. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein the transmission power ranges in different radio cells/sectors vary.

59. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein the subcarrier block set size of corresponding subcarrier block sets is equal.

60. (New) The method according to claim 45, further comprising the step of reconfiguring the subcarrier block sets in a radio cell/sector of radio cell.

61. (New) The method according to claim 45, further comprising the step of reconfiguring the transmission power ranges in a radio cell/sector of a radio cell.

62. (New) The method according to claim 60, wherein the reconfiguration of the power ranges and/or the subcarrier block sets in the radio cell is performed in accordance with the other radio cells of its cell cluster.

63. (New) The method according to claim 60, wherein the reconfiguration of the power ranges and/or the subcarrier block sets in the sector is performed in accordance with the other sectors of its sector cluster.

64. (New) The method according to claim 60, wherein the reconfiguration is based on channel quality measurements.

65. (New) The method according to claim 45, further comprising the step of signaling information related to a reconfiguration of the subcarrier block sets in a radio cell/sector from the/its radio cell to at least one adjacent radio cell/sector.

66. (New) The method according to claim 61, further comprising the step of signaling information related to channel qualities in a radio cell/sector from the/its radio cell to at least one adjacent radio cell/sector.

67. (New) The method according to claim 65, further comprising the step of signaling the information to a control unit in the communication system.

68. (New) The method according to claim 56, further comprising the step of signaling information related to a subcarrier block assignment and/or a subcarrier block set assignment to a communication terminal.

69. (New) A base station in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a

plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein a number of adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, the base station comprising:

processing unit operable to group said subcarrier blocks into a plurality of subcarrier block sets in each radio cell of the cell cluster,

determination unit operable to determine a plurality of transmission power ranges for each of the radio cell of said cell cluster,

power control unit operable to perform power control within a range of transmission power levels defined by one of said plurality of transmission power ranges,

assigning unit operable to assign the plurality transmission power ranges to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster.

70. (New) The base station according to claim 69, wherein the radio cells of the cell cluster each comprise corresponding subcarrier block sets having the same subcarriers.

71. (New) The base station according to claim 69, wherein said assigning unit is operable to assign said plurality transmission power ranges to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to a subcarrier block set of said single radio cell, and

there is a mapping of each of said plurality of transmission power ranges to one of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in the radio cells of said cell cluster.

72. (New) The base station according to claim 69, wherein said assigning unit is operable to assign said plurality transmission power ranges to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

in a single radio cell, there is a mapping of each of said plurality of subcarrier block sets of said single radio cell to a transmission power range, and

there is a mapping of each of said corresponding subcarrier block sets in the radio cells of said cell cluster to one of said plurality of transmission power ranges.

73. (New) A base station in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein N adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, N being an integer number of 2 or more, the base station comprising:

processing unit operable to group said subcarrier blocks into $x \cdot N$ subcarrier block sets in each radio cell of the cell cluster, wherein the radio cells of the cell cluster each comprise corresponding subcarrier block sets having the same subcarriers, x being an integer number of 1 or more,

determination unit operable to determine $y \cdot N$ transmission power ranges for each of the radio cell of said cell cluster, y being an integer number of 1 or more, power control unit operable to perform power control within a range of transmission power levels defined by one of said plurality of transmission power ranges,

assigning unit operable to assign $y \cdot N$ transmission power ranges to the $x \cdot N$ subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster, such that

each of the $y \cdot N$ transmission power ranges in a radio cell is assigned to one of the $x \cdot N$ subcarrier block sets of said radio cell, and

y/x transmission power ranges on average are assigned to one subcarrier block set of corresponding subcarrier block sets.

74. (New) A base station in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells each of them comprising at least two sectors, wherein in each sector a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, and wherein a number of adjacent radio cells builds a cell cluster, the base station comprising:

processing unit operable to group said subcarrier blocks into N subcarrier block sets in each of the sectors of each radio cell of said cluster, wherein each sector of a radio cell has $N-1$ adjacent sectors in the other radio cells of the cell cluster, and wherein a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors in said other radio cells each comprise corresponding subcarrier block set having the same subcarriers, N being an integer number of 2 or more,

determination unit operable to determine N transmission power ranges for each sector of each radio cell of the cell cluster,

power control unit operable to perform power control within a range of transmission power levels defined by one of said plurality of transmission power ranges,

assigning unit operable to assign the N transmission power ranges to the N subcarrier block sets of a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors of said other radio cells, such that

in a sector, each of the N transmission power ranges in a sector of a radio cell is assigned to one of the N subcarrier block sets of said sector, and

each of the N transmission power ranges is assigned to one subcarrier block set of corresponding sectors.

75. (New) A base station in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells each of them comprising at least two sectors, wherein in each sector a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, and wherein N adjacent radio cells builds a cell cluster, the base station comprising:

processing unit operable to group said subcarrier blocks into xN subcarrier block sets in each of the sectors of each radio cell of said cluster, wherein each sector of a radio cell has $N-1$ adjacent sectors in the other radio cells of the cell cluster, and wherein a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors in said other radio cells each comprise corresponding subcarrier block set having the same subcarriers, x being an integer number of 1 or more and N being an integer number of 2 or more,

determination unit operable to determine yN transmission power ranges for each sector of each radio cell of the cell cluster, y being an integer number of 1 or more,

power control unit operable to perform power control within a range of transmission power levels defined by one of said plurality of transmission power ranges,

assigning unit operable to assign the yN transmission power ranges to the xN subcarrier block sets of a sector of a radio cell and its adjacent sectors of said other radio cells, such that

in a sector, each of the yN transmission power ranges in a sector of a radio cell is assigned to one of the xN subcarrier block sets of said sector, and

y/x transmission power ranges on average are assigned to one subcarrier block set of corresponding sectors.

76. (New) The base station according claim 69, wherein the base station is adapted to perform a method for balancing the distribution of interference between radio cells in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, wherein a number of adjacent radio cells build a cell cluster, the method comprising the steps of:

grouping said subcarrier blocks into a plurality of subcarrier block sets in each radio cell of the cell cluster,

determining a plurality of transmission power ranges for each of the radio cell of said cell cluster, wherein a transmission power range defines a range of transmission power levels used for transmission power control,

assigning the plurality of transmission power ranges to the subcarrier block sets of radio cells of the cell cluster.

77. (New) The base station according to claims 73, further comprising:

measuring unit operable to measure the path loss of a communication signal of a communication terminal and the path loss due to interference among adjacent sectors for said communication signal, and

the assigning unit is operable to assign the communication terminal to one of said subcarrier block sets based on said measurements.

78. (New) A communication terminal in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, the communication terminal comprising power control unit operable to perform power control between a base station of a radio cell communicating with the communication terminal, wherein the power control unit is operable to perform power control in a transmission power control range in an interval defined by a transmission power level of 0 and a maximum transmission power level.

79. The communication terminal according to claim 42, further comprising receiving unit operable to receive information

indicating a subcarrier block assignment and/or a subcarrier block set assignment, and

selection unit operable to select the signaled assigned subcarrier block and/or signaled assigned subcarrier block set for data transmission.

80. (New) A radio communication system comprising a base station according to claim 69 and a communication terminal in a wireless communication system, the system comprising a plurality of radio cells in which a plurality of subcarrier blocks is used for communication, wherein each subcarrier block comprises a plurality of subcarriers, the communication terminal comprising power control unit operable to perform power control between a base station of a radio cell communicating with the communication terminal, wherein the power control unit is operable to perform power control in a transmission power control range in an interval defined by a transmission power level of 0 and a maximum transmission power level.